



TOP OF THE HILL



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
28 MAY 2013 VOL. XVIII, No. 4

First Stop in Atlanta: Delicious

By Peter Taylor



It was 12:30 PM on a Thursday afternoon, and three buses pulled into Atlanta full of energetic boys with only one thing on their mind: how awesome their trip was going to be. After a quick stop at the CNN Food Court to feed the ravenous flock of eighth graders, we went straight to the long awaited and famed World of Coca Cola. After a fairly quick wait in line, we were allowed in.

The World of Coca Cola is a famous museum, documenting the history of the drink and the company. Located in downtown Atlanta, Georgia, World of Coca Cola is known for its unique look into the making of Coca Cola, including a real bottling line, a peek at the vault that contains the secret formula, and the fan favorite, the tasting room. We were led inside and given a brief introduction by a

lively tour guide to what the museum was all about and shown several pieces of Coca Cola memorabilia from throughout the past 120 years, and this was just the first room! We then watched a five-minute film reminding its viewers of the key tenets of happiness, sharing, and celebrating a Coke and a smile with others. After the film, the screen was raised, revealing the rest of the museum, and we began our self-guided tour.

Though some people ventured into the exhibits, which included a 4-D movie with shaking seats and a room full of Coca Cola advertising products throughout the years, most (myself included), went straight to the tasting room. The tasting room is a huge room full of hundreds of different beverages that the Coca Cola Company distributes all across the world. There is a section of just the basic Coke flavors such as regular, vanilla, and Mrs. Roberts' beloved Diet Coke, as well as a few electronic drink dispensers (like at Moe's or Pei Wei) which provided us with dozens of the Coca Cola company's most notable products including Sprite, Barq's Root Beer, and Minute Maid Lemonade. However, the true highlights were the hundreds of international flavors served in their own dispensers throughout the

room, many of which are only available in the countries of which the label on the dispenser informed us. The flavors ranged from Apple Kiwi Fanta from Thailand to Menthe (mint) Sunfill from Djibouti. The most (in)famous is the Beverly from Italy, which the employees of the museum AND Mr. McMurray

informed us was delicious. Imagine the looks on our faces when we tried a sip and discovered how awful it was. It tasted like nothing at first, but the strong aftertaste is that of a bitter cough syrup. Some eighth graders were bold enough to chug several cups worth of Beverly, and a few actually (as a joke or not) claimed that they liked it. My only disappointment from this glorious palace of taste sensation was that there was no New Coke, which I have desperately wanted to try since I was ten. (For those who don't know, New Coke was something that Coke did in the 80's when sales were down, and they made a new beverage and called it "New Coke." It was a huge flop, and I think Coca Cola is trying to erase it from their history.) Overall, the tasting room was an excellent experience.

After the tasting room had run its course, we were given a free glass bottle Coke, bottled right there in the museum, and escorted to the gift shops, filled with Coke memorabilia as far as the eye could see. Many eighth graders purchased some of the overpriced souvenirs, but we all went away having had a great time and with fond memories.



IN THIS ISSUE

ATLANTA TRIP.....	1 - 7
BIG RED SPORTS.....	33 - 39
ENTERTAINMENT.....	20 - 26
FEATURES.....	13 - 19
ON THE HILL.....	8 - 12
SPORTS.....	27 - 32
SURVEY.....	7
TRIVIA.....	12

ATLANTA

The Braves Game

By Jake Evans



The Braves game on the Friday night of the Atlanta trip was great for everyone. Whether you actually wanted to go to see the Braves play or you were there because you had to be, the night ended up being a blast for everyone. We arrived two hours prior to the game, watched batting practice, walked around the stadium, ate, and went to the Braves store. Most of the 8th graders ended up with a new piece of Braves memorabilia by the end of the night. As far as the game went, it played out as expected. The Braves beat

possibly the worst team in the MLB, the Cubs, 4-1 behind the 7.1 innings of stellar pitching by former Vandy star Mike Minor, a solo home run by the Braves newest outfielder, Justin Upton, in the first inning, and a 2-RBI single to left field by 3rd baseman Juan Francisco in the bottom of the 5th inning. Braves closer Craig Kimbrel finished the job in the 9th with fastballs that reached 98 MPH. Perhaps the biggest stories brought back to MBA were about Wes, whom most of the 8th graders sat with. He was always up giving high fives and

cheering, most of the time not even for the game. He said and did some pretty stupid but hilarious things as the game progressed. He led a Harlem Shake around the 6th or 7th inning, and got everyone around him on the Fox Sports South broadcast of the game. Between all of the Harlem Shakes and random cheers, I would say he watched maybe 2-3 innings total. Other things that occurred during the game included a stadium-wide raffle that got up to \$5,000, in which most of the 8th graders entered multiple times. Unfortunately, the lucky winner did not come from MBA. Although we did not get to stay for the Friday night fireworks, we still watched them as we exited and drove away from Turner Field. All-in-all, I would say the Braves game on Friday night was an experience that every 8th grader ended up enjoying one way or another.

What is Wrong with the Cubs?



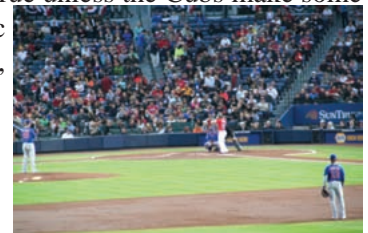
By Drew Powell

Watching the Cubs play the Braves was a waste of four hours from a Cubs fan's perspective. The Cubs had one home run, only two men in scoring position, and only five hits. The Braves had three stolen bases, a home run, and six hits. Once batting practice started, it was obvious that it would be a bad game. With the Cubs players barely hitting the warning track and almost every Brave hitting at least one home

run, you could tell two hours before the game even started, that it would be a bad way to spend your Friday night. The pitching was terrible, giving up a home run on the third batter with two strikes and two outs in the first inning. The Cubs tried to shift their infielders to adjust for each batter, shifting left for a left-handed batter and right for a right-handed batter. When Braves left-handed 1st baseman Freddie Freeman came up to bat early in the game, the Cubs 3rd baseman was in the shortstop's usual ground, the shortstop on the opposite side of 2nd base, and the first and second basemen playing right on top of each other. Freddie and Jason Heyward both faced this defense, and both had opposite field hits, where the defense would normally be.

The Cubs have are really struggling. Although they are doing better than in previous years, they are still 10 games out of 1st place in the NL Central. The Cubs have two players

that were recognized by other MBA students, Alfonso Soriano and Starlin Castro. This is a huge problem for the Cubs because they do not have the big name players such as Albert Pujols or Alex Rodriguez. With the Cubs' horrible fielding, low hitting percentage, and bad pitching, I predict this will be another season to forget for the Cubs, unless they do something miraculous. Billy Sianis, a Cubs fan in the 1940s, brought his pet goat to a Cubs World Series game where he proceeded to be kicked out of the stadium for his goat's odor. As he was leaving, he cried, "they ain't gonna win no more." This "curse" put on the Cubs that dreadful night in 1945 has remained true to this day, and it appears that it will remain true unless the Cubs make some drastic changes, fast.



ATLANTA

Andretti Awesomeness

By Joe Moxley

The first night in Atlanta was a total success. Andretti had a rock climbing wall, go-karts, arcade games, and even a high-ropes course. Right when I entered the building, I was amazed. The staff immediately took us to their conference room. In there, we



Mac Lassing and Sam Morris

were served tacos. Once our stomachs were filled with delicious tacos, the staff gave us game cards for the arcade games. They also took groups to either go-karting, rock climbing, or the arcade.

My group went to the arcade first. The arcade had a lot of the regular games like Pac Man, racing games, shooting games, basketball, etc.; but



Call Bainbridge and Matthew Dobson



Hayes Alley

there were also games that I had not seen before. I saw one where a person had to drive some sort of vehicle while another was supposed to shoot monsters. That game was definitely a MBA favorite. I even played a racing game that took your picture before the race started. Also, I played some games that I thought could never be in an arcade such as Fruit Ninja and Temple Run. After playing the games for a while, we got our chance to race go-karts.

Since all of us were not old enough to go on the advanced track, we raced in a small loop with five or six karts at one time. With adrenaline pumping through my veins, I floored the pedal at the start. We had about ten minutes to pass, bump, and crash into each other. The race was pure chaos. People were swerving left and right. Someone's cart had sparks flying off it every time it turned. We all tried to cut our opponents off, and that led to several stop-ups and crashes. Sadly, the race had to stop, and we moved on to the rock wall.

The rock wall was in the far

corner. The wall had four types of difficulties: easy, medium, hard, and advanced. I started out on the easy course. Rock climbing is definitely not an easy task for me, but I got through the course without much trouble. After that, I was allowed to try one more course. I decided to go on the moderately difficult course. I barely got up a few feet before I fell. It was really embarrassing, but my group mates were thoughtful and gave me a few tips. The staff let me try the course one last time. Still, I did not get any farther before I fell. Actually I ended up almost knocking my group mates down when I fell. I then turned in my gear and headed back to the arcade.

For the remainder of our time, we played arcade games. Overall, Andretti was crazily awesome. The place had so much to do, and you could



Mr. Russ wonders how Hayes makes this game look so easy.

never get bored. Even when I ran out of money, I enjoyed watching other people play.

I would like to thank Mrs. Stewart and the other teachers who came on the trip with us for making all the fun at Atlanta happen. My classmates and I really appreciate it.

ATLANTA

Paintball: A Colorful Excursion

By Andrew Kaplan

On the first full day of the 2013 Atlanta trip (Friday), the students ventured to Paintball Atlanta in a rural section off the highway for a day of fun, guts, and glory. To start, each player was given a rental gun and



Jarrett Knight

five-hundred paintball pellets, not enough as it turns out because ammo conservation was key. The games began on a variety of courses, generally the objective is capture the flag or elimination (hit every man on the other team first). Two teams were created, red and yellow, and these teams were further divided. One field was longer than the others and had massive wooden forts. Many players were too intimidated and stayed too far back in this game. Another field was of small wooden barriers with woods in the middle. The woods made hitting targets easier, and people moved up faster since they now realized that paintballs did not hurt. The final field was made of dirt mounds. The field was small, and the lack of covering made this game go by quickly.



The morning games were great and made all of the players really hungry. Mrs. Stewart ordered a lot of Papa John's Pizza (most likely around ninety to one-hundred boxes!), which was devoured within minutes along with bottles of Pepsi, Mountain Dew, and Dr. Pepper. When everyone finished, we were given more ammo to share and prepared our gear for a final, forty-five minute long game of capture the flag in the woods, where everyone (including Coaches Euverard, Brock, Chauvin, Simpson, Russ, McMurray, and Ardisson) were together as two combined teams. The teams were fairly even, although the yellow team may have had a few more people. The yellow team escaped with the flag first and shot their way to victory with winning factors such as former Army member Coach Simpson with superior advancing strategies and



slightly better ammunition conservation. By the end of the game, most people were nearly out if not completely out of ammo. Luckily though, when you got shot, you did not have to wait the rest

of the time. You went to a dead box where you could return to the game after five minutes. This game was the favorite game of many from beginners to experts.

The day of paintball was



Coaches Simpson, McMurray, Russ, Chauvin, and Euverard are ready to go!

my favorite part of the trip, as it was for many others. Paintball served as a bonding experience for the class through bruises and sweat. As for the seventh graders reading this article, here is some advice: Do not be afraid!

They're paintballs, not bullets; it will hurt for about five seconds if that. Finally, bring old clothes and make sure you cover up. Paintballs hurt a lot more when you get hit on bare skin. Also, make sure, if you bring sweats, that they are old because the fields can be muddy, and they are called paintballs for a reason.

ATLANTA

Six Flags Success: The Final Atlanta Event

By Jack Brandes

The last adventure for the Class of 2017's trip to Atlanta was the Six Flags amusement park. The event allowed the boys to spend half a day exploring and enjoying the park. As soon as they drove near Six Flags, they could already see many attractions. The excitement immediately built when the classmates were let loose into Six Flags. While many immediately tried to secure a substantial spot in one of the lines for the numerous roller coasters,



others departed to purchase Flash Passes. The passes cut the waiting time for riders, depending on the Flash Pass they bought. Flashpasses included regular, gold, and platinum (sold out). Over the course of the

next few hours, the 8th graders took advantage of their time at Six Flags and played games, braved roller coasters, and ate good food. Scattered across

the park were a number of arcades, which proved to be entertaining. However, most boys were most

excited to ride roller coasters. Among the favorite rides were Superman, The Scream Machine, The Goliath, Batman, and The Dare Devil. Some coasters had enormous plunges while other rides let you experience loops and twists. Either way, the roller coasters were a huge hit. Though it was the conclusion of the 8th grade Atlanta trip, the boys got to enjoy the vast, entertaining, and thrilling Six Flags Atlanta.



Mack Smithing



ATLANTA



Andrew Kaplan, Gabriel Mendoza, Tanner Noonan, Perry Mathews, and George Harwell



Brad Hornsby, Will Warren, and Ben Ramon



Will Hoffman, Caleb Jernigan, Mac Lassing, and Sam Morris



Cal Rieke really does not like the Beverly.

ATLANTA

8th Graders Weigh in on the Atlanta Trip

By Mark Lillard

1. How would you rank the trip on a scale of 1-10?

1. 3.8%
2. 0%
3. 0%
4. 1.3%
5. 5%
6. 5%
7. 16.3%
8. 25%
9. 3.5%
10. 8.8%

2. Did you like the room assignments?

Yes-70%
No-30%

3. What was your favorite part of the trip?

Andretti-1.3%
Coke Museum-1.3%
Paintball-53.8%
Braves Game-20%
Six Flags-23.8%

4. What was your least favorite part of the trip?

Andretti-33.8%
Coke Museum-55%
Paintball-2.5%
Braves Game-3.8%
Six Flags-5%

5. Who were you rooting for at the baseball game?

Braves-90%
Cubs-10%

6. What was your favorite roller coaster at Six Flags?

Top 3

1. Superman
2. Goliath
3. Batman

7. What was your favorite field at paintball?

Top 3

1. Final Big Woods Field (won by a lot)
2. Grass Bunker Field
3. Capture the Flag Fortress Field

8. Did you try the Beverly at the Coke Museum?

Yes- 96.3%
No-3.8%

9. If so, how would you rank the Beverly?

1. 58.7%
2. 2.7%
3. 2.7%
4. 1.3%
5. 1.3%
6. 1.3%
7. 0%
8. 0%

9. 0%

10. 32%

10. What was one thing in Atlanta that we didn't do that you think we should have done?

Top 3

1. Aquarium
2. Final Four
3. The Varsity



ON THE HILL



PREDICTIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

Hayes Alley- Professional D-pole Laxbro
 Jack Anderson- Professional baseball player who scores all of his runs without his shoes
 Bryce Ardisson- Stage Manager and Leading Role on Broadway
 Call Bainbridge- Next Ryan Lochte mashed with a Ray Lewis
 Jack Benson- Worldwide Hunting and Fishing extraordinaire
 Jack Brandes- Chillest French Horn player in the Berlin Symphony
 Matthew Braun- Double Agent Hacker for Google and Microsoft
 Barrett Brown- Creator and Host of next big redneck reality show
 Luke Byrge- Clash of Clans Professional gamer
 Magnus Campos- Virtuoso Mariachi Guitarist
 Jack Carey- Nighthawk/ Terminator/ Late Night Host
 Logan Cashwell- Purveyor of the most solid high fives
 Ty Chandler- Next Bo Jackson but better
 Dean Cheevers- Leader of the Irish Drummer Society (offensive)
 Josh Cheng- Next Al Capone
 Asher Curnutte- Biggest Lady's Man
 Drew Davis- Vanderbilt Mascot
 Max Davis- CEO of Hershey's Candy Company
 Hudson Dobbs- Michael Phelps and owner of Pawn Shop
 Matthew Dobson- President of Iron Mill
 Reilly Dodd- Book Reviewer for the *New York Times*
 Andrew Duffey- Eternal frat boy
 John Dugan- Conservative Politician
 Palmer Einstman- Baker
 Jake Evans- Ole miss Sports writer
 Alden Ferguson- Member of Alden and the Chipmunks
 Andrew Freeland- Next Green Giant
 Hamilton Garber- Butcher
 Sam Garrett- Juicy Juice 100% real fruit juice salesman
 Ben Gauldin- Sneaker Designer
 Brandon Glaser- Barber
 John Glover- Skittles taste tester
 Dorian Goldner- Toucan
 Rush Gorney- Streaker at a sporting event (offensive?)

Will Gray- D league center
 Aubrey Greene- Next Winner of the Bachelorette
 Jed Griffin- WWE People's Champion
 Will Hansen- Latin Teacher and Ultimate Frisbee Coach (DAVUS 2012!)
 George Harwell- Grand Slam winner
 Dylan Haselton- Dog Photographer
 Jack Hayles- Next sheriff
 Jacob Herndon- Earth Scientist and passionate gardener
 Will Hoffman- Olympic High Jumper
 William Hollahan- Millionaire inventor
 Brad Hornsby- Owner of Right Twix
 Jack Hornsby- Owner of Left Twix
 Tony Huang- Curer of Aids, Cancer, and inventor of time machine all during the month of April of Senior Year
 Andrew Hudson- The Next Robert Frost
 Laws Hunter- Motivational Speaker
 Liam Jameson- Next Bart Durham
 Caleb Jernigan- Worldwide Freakshow
 Turner Johnson- Olympic Sprinter and President of match.com
 Andrew Kaplan- Teacher to the Deaf
 Boaz Kelner- American Idol Winner
 Jarrett Knight- Commercial Fisherman
 Jacob Kovick- Professional Street Hockey
 Warner Lamar- Not Batman (wink wink)
 Mac Lassing- University of Tennessee Head of Athletics
 Michael Lee- next owner of BALLISLIFE magazine
 Mark Lillard- leg doctor/ legoligist
 Holland Lund- NASCAR driver
 J.P. Mappes- rockstar
 Jackson Maradik- next Optics leader/ Peyton Manning
 Drew Martin- cleanup batter for the Texas Rangers
 Perry Matthews- George of the Jungle
 Jorma McClure- Mexico ambassador
 Duncan McGinn- huuuunter
 Joe McMahan- sloth tamer
 Gabriel Mendoza- President's coach
 Ellis Moore- will be able to be found at the end of a rainbow/HUGEST man alive
 John Morphet- International Chess Champion
 Sam Morris- samurai
 Joe Moxley- MBA English teacher
 Thomas Neff- madman

Tony Neuhooff- professional friend
 Tanner Noonan- next member of Duck Dynasty
 Bo Osgood- rabbit jumper
 Christopher Owen- next CoCo Puffs bird
 Jackson Owen- Usai Bolt's lost son
 Edward Ownby- Mac hacker
 Dan Parks- most likely to randomly get a perfect score on the SAT
 Wyeth Patton- cures diabetes
 William Peter- next Chris Farley
 Tom Peters- assistant BMOC
 Will Peters- BMOC
 Jack Pickel- Auburn Football Coach
 William Porter- owner of the largest chicken farm in the United States
 Drew Powell- next Dwight Howard/ BIGgest man alive
 Collin Ragsdale- waste management
 Ben Ramon- diamond thief
 Nick Ray- shark hunter
 Jack Reineke- leader of the tribe
 Zach Richardson- backpack salesman
 Cal Rieke- PGA golfer/ bread enthusiast
 Luke Rochford- USA sniper
 Ben Rosenthal- doubles tennis champ
 Jackson Satz- first inductee into the Quidditch Hall of Fame
 Mack Smithing- psychopathic triathlon champ
 Riley Steanson- sumo wrestler
 Austin Streaty- world's best meatloaf
 Peter Taylor- hardcore rocker
 Brian Thomas- riflery coach
 Cole Thornton- shoe throwing coach
 Owen Underwood- BMX dirt biker
 Haden Wachtler- 'boy
 Cameron Wade- first millionaire off of ESPN fantasy fishing
 Joe Waller- legendary indoor LAX goalie
 Noah Wamble- NHL goalie with teeth
 Will Warren- murders the Pillsbury Doughboy for less competition
 John Whitaker- obsidian specialist
 Micah White- forensics state champ
 Richard White- diehard 'Bama fan who doesn't and will never go to Alabama
 Alvin Zhang- next Yao Ming
 Vincent Zhang- Slick Vinny/ V-Swag



ON THE HILL

Annual JS Poetry Competition Winners!



*Andrew Kaplan
First Place*



*Turner Johnson
Second Place*



*Rhys Rutherford
Fourth Place*



*Jackson McFadden
Third Place*

Junior School Tradition Continues with Seventh Annual Poetry Recitation

The final round of the sixth annual Junior School Poetry Recitation Contest was held on April 9 in the Dead Poets Society Room. The competition is a celebration of National Poetry Month and the culmination of a year of quarterly recitation work by each student in the Junior School. The rounds begin with a representative from each English class and end with the seventh-grade finalist facing off against the eighth-grade finalist. This year was unusual in that there was a tie for both the seventh-grade and eighth-grade winners. Representatives for the seventh grade were Jackson McFadden and Rhys Rutherford. The eighth-grade winners were Turner Johnson and Andrew Kaplan. Turner is no stranger to this competition. He placed first last year. This year's finalists were quite varied with their presentations. Turner and Andrew presented impassioned renditions of Marc Antony's funeral speech in *Julius Caesar*, and Jackson and Rhys took a forthright and inspirational approach with Rudyard Kipling's "If." Each performance was strong, and the competition was fierce, but Andrew Kaplan emerged the victor. Second place went to Turner Johnson, and third place and fourth place went to Jackson McFadden and Rhys Rutherford respectively. Congratulations to each of these young men.

Requiescat

A Tribute to Mr. Billy Tate

By Jake Evans



As you all know, Mr. Billy Tate, a long time faculty member of MBA, passed away in April. He was an incredible man and teacher who put MBA debate and the rest of the school on the map nationwide. Even though I only had him for the 1st quarter in seventh-grade speech class, he was an influential man who loved what he did. Despite teaching me for only part of the year, he always said, "How ya doin, Jake?" into my eighth-grade year. Rather than dwell on the sadness of his death, I would like to celebrate his life through stories and memories from a few of his closest faculty friends.

Madame O'Connell remembers Mr. Tate the best by his support of her son's campaign for the Tennessee House of Representatives. She says, "In 2002 when my 25-year-old son, Freddie O'Connell, decided to run for the Tennessee State House of Representatives -- the youngest candidate to ever run, Billy was one of Freddie's first and most loyal supporters. Although they belonged to different political parties, Billy's generous spirit and love of Freddie placed Billy among Freddie's most loyal supporters. Billy donated generously to Freddie's campaign, came to Freddie's campaign launch party, and avidly recommended Freddie to friends and neighbors." She describes Mr. Tate as a long-time friend whom she could tell anything. Although he was often discreet in his advice, it was always good-natured, wise, well-thought-out, and personal.

Mr. Klausner, a long time friend of Mr. Tate, remembers him best for his advice and help to him as a new teacher. Mr. Klausner tried to adjust to MBA's standards and principles. He says that "Mr. Tate basically made me feel safe here when I began teaching on the Hill. I struggled a bit early on as I tried to adjust from a relaxed school in California to the demands and expectations of MBA." Mr. Klausner says, "After a tough encounter with an older teacher here in the middle of the faculty lounge where I was screamed at for giving an improper late slip to a kid, for some reason I chose to go see the Buddha, Mr. Tate." Mr. Klausner says, "I trusted him from the minute I walked in. He let me vent and whimper,



then he reached for the solution--a

Goo-Goo Cluster. From that day forward he was always checking on me, and I began to check on him as he would saunter across the campus." This was the kind of sincere, caring, and all around "good dude" that Mr. Tate was.

Mr. Womack and Mr. Tate were friends and colleagues for more than 30 years. He is remembered by Mr. Womack for the "tiny moments that make up the greater composite soul." The little things like "A Cadillac parked beside Massey, boxes of Goo-Goos, pimento cheese sandwiches every Monday, and running for NFL office." Mr. Womack recalls other details like "I'm awake, I'm awake. I heard the whole thing," Alabama football, critiques of restaurants in Nashville, hot sauces, barbecue all with a



in Pace

Diet Coke, and “stand up straight, don’t rock, look at your audience, and above all no ‘ums’.” These little moments made Mr. Tate who he was in Mr. Womack’s eyes.

Fellow debate coach Mr. Quinn remembers Mr. Tate as an “old school” kind of guy who did things that weren’t done by others. Such as writing thank you notes, giving gifts to friends in need, and taking time out of his day to uphold the principles by which he stood. One of Mr. Quinn’s favorite memories of Mr. Tate is at the annual debate tournament in January, Mr. Tate would pass out barbecue sauce to each coach from schools around



the country and describe to the crowd why it fit that person. Another funny memory Mr. Quinn cherishes from his time as an MBA student is when the occasional “flesh pile” would occur, when seniors and upperclassmen tormented younger students by piling on top of them. Mr. Quinn says that Mr. Tate would always joke that, if we misbehaved, he would endorse a flesh-pile on us so that he could be the “cherry on top.”

One of Mr. Tate’s former speech students, Turner Johnson describes Mr. Tate as a nice man who always went out of his way to say hello whether it was in the hallway or the lunch room. Although Turner was not acquainted with Mr. Tate until the 4th quarter of last year, he still knew him as a friend and an influential man. Turner remembers Mr. Tate by recalling that on the 2nd day of class when he introduced himself, he instantly became nicknamed Tunnah. He also reminisces about their frequent conversations on the differences between

Cajun and Creole food. Another memory involves the assembly speaker and grading his performance. Although Turner formally knew Mr. Tate for only one quarter, he still is one of the most influential teachers in Turner’s mind.

Mr. Tate lived from 1943-2013. He worked at MBA for more than 30 years. He was the kind of person who enjoyed and savored every moment and loved what he did; shown by the fact that he died doing what he loved. He shaped the lives of hundreds of young men trying to find their passion. It has been said by many speakers that his students learned much more in his class than in all academic classes combined. I can personally say that is 100% true. He didn’t just teach you how to speak publicly, but he taught you how to deliver yourself in a manner that is beyond presentable. Sure, his class helps you in your freshman speech contest and other various speaking events, but most of all, he helps you become a man. This was the kind of man Mr. Tate was. His life is marked by many debate awards but also by the praise of many former students. Mr. Tate will be greatly missed by all of us at MBA. *Requiescat in pace*, Mr. Billy Tate.



ON THE HILL

National MathCounts Competition

By Tony Huang

On May 10, the Tennessee National MathCounts, consisting of Tony Huang, Chang Yu, Ohm Patel, and John Hartley headed to DC to participate in the National MathCounts Competition. Though the turnout was not great, the team still had fun.

On the first night, a MBA alumnus, Mr. Franklin, took us to see a play in the Folger Theatre, *Twelfth Night*. He has our thanks.

Alec Sun, an individual from Massachusetts, won the



National title. The Massachusetts team also won the team title. The national competitors set a Guinness

World record at the competition by creating the fastest human-made twenty-five rows of Pascal's Triangle ever. It was completed in less than seven minutes. Pascal's triangle is created by starting with a one on the top, and then all other numbers are formed by adding the two numbers above it.

Thank you to Mrs. Qian for a great year of coaching and also to all the MBA MathCounts competitors.



The new world record for the fastest human-made Pascal's Triangle

Mythos Corner

Mount Olympus and the Olympians Trivia

By Alex Bulgarino

1. Who guarded the gates of Mount Olympus from trespassers? (*****)
2. In some myths, which god replaces Hestia? (**)
3. What was Hera's patron city? (****)
4. Who created the bridle to help man tame horses? (****)
5. Who was the ideal god to the Greeks (he is the exact embodiment of what the Greeks stood for)? (*)
6. What was the name of the serpent that Apollo killed at Delphi? (**)
7. What does the Greek word Aphros mean? Which god or goddess does it come from? (***)
8. Which god carries the dead to the Underworld? (**)
9. Who started the Trojan War? (*****)
10. Who is the God of Death? (*****)

(If you think you have the right answers, then email me at alex.bulgarino18@montgomerybell.edu.)

EDITORIAL

North Korea: We're Still Waiting for You to Do Something

By Reilly Dodd

First of all, a quick history of North Korea. If you're not interested in this part, skip to the next paragraph where the recent events are discussed

Really the split began back during the Cold War when the United States was fighting for democracy and the USSR was fighting for communism. The Korean Peninsula up to that point was an extension of Japan, but was stripped from Japan after the events of WWII. Obviously, the United States and the other winning powers had a lot to deal with this change after almost every continent (especially Europe and Africa) had its borders contorted due to the war. In the eyes of the winning powers, the Korean Peninsula was put on the wait list while they fixed everything else. The temporary solution was to divide it into two countries under provisional governments along the 38th parallel. What could possibly go wrong? Then America decided that it would be a good idea to host fair democratic elections in both of the Koreas. The Soviets, as we all know, didn't like the words "capitalism," "democracy," and "freedom" at the time, so they had stroke of genius and said, "Why don't we divide the two

Koreas into democratic and communist states? Sure, our plan to unite the Koreas

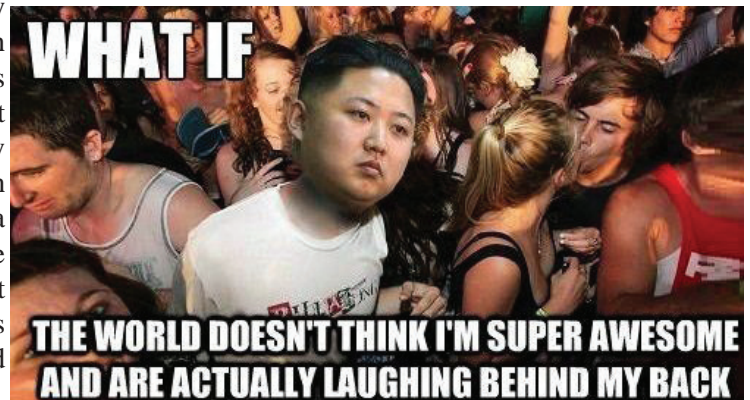


North Korea's Kim Jong Un

is still going to happen, but for right now, let's just leave it like that." North Korea became communist, and South Korea became democratic. When the United States and the other countries finally got their act together and tried to help eastern Asia, the USSR and USA surprisingly had a fight over whether the new Korea should be democratic or communist. Who would've thought of that? This division finally escalated into the Korean War, and the two Koreas have hated each other since.

In recent events, North Korea, under the not-so-great leadership of Kim Jong-Un, has decided it would be a great idea to threaten their southern brothers and the United States. To top off the threat, they even threw nuclear missiles into the mix, something that the UN immediately sanctioned. Why the Kim family ruling North Korea thinks that they can just nonchalantly go and threaten people is a mystery. Some speculate that Kim Jong-Un is just too detached from reality.

Let's face it, when the man in charge is calling the South Koreans warmongers and believes his father was born in a magical cave under a double rainbow, he's bound to get some facts mixed in his head. Some people believe that the man is just mentally unstable. These claims aren't made without irrefutable evidence either; Kim Jong-Un threatened all foreigners to leave the Korean Peninsula because they were about to launch a nuclear missile, and on the following day invited them to some absurd "Celebrate the Idiots Who Ruined North Korea" marathon. Just what could have possibly been running through Kim's mind when he did this act is unbelievable. In even more recent events though, the Pyongyang government has actually sent two missiles back into storage. This whole ordeal with North Korea can be chalked up to Kim Jong-Un getting extra cranky one day, deciding to threaten a bunch of other "lesser" countries, and then wimping out after he compared some actual numbers regarding the military power of North Korea and America and our allies. So the conclusion to the story is that North Korea is delusional, and America has nothing to fear from them.



FEATURES

The Boston Marathon Bombing

By Riley Steanson



On Monday, April 15, the Boston Marathon was held. This marathon is an especially big race every year. This year, 23,000 people competed in the 26.2 mile long event. This marathon's finish line was dedicated to the victims and everyone else associated with the Sandy Hook Elementary school. This was an obvious spot for a terrorist attack, but nobody thought that such a thing would happen. It was a carefree day.

Around 2:45 PM (ET), Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev are caught on cameras approaching the spots where the two blasts would soon occur. Both of them were carrying knapsacks or bags that contained the bombs. Dzhokhar is seen staring at the bag for four minutes before taking a phone call when he walks away. The call lasts eighteen seconds before Dzhokhar hangs up.

Near 2:50 PM (ET), the first bomb goes off. Ten seconds later, the second bomb explodes about a block from the first blast. These blasts were responsible for three deaths and two-hundred and sixty immediate injuries to the public.

Wednesday, April 17, Dias Kadyrbayev, a friend of Dzhokhar, drives to Dzhokhar's dormitory room and texts Dzhokhar asking him to come down to meet Dias in the lobby. When Dias meets Dzhokhar, he notices that Dzhokhar has his hair cut short. That evening, Azamat Tazhayakov, Dias' roommate in his apartment, tells investigators that he was with Dzhokhar in the apartment.

Thursday, April 18, At 5 PM (ET), the FBI releases photos of two suspects they believe were the ones who bombed the marathon. Around that same time, Kadyrbayev is driving back to his apartment from a class. He talks on the phone with a friend, Robert Phillipos. Phillipos tells Kadyrbayev to turn on the news when he gets home because one of the suspects looks familiar. When Kadyrbayev get home, he does so and sees that one of the suspects resembles Dzhokhar. Kadyrbayev later texts Dzhokhar saying that he looks like one of the suspects on the news. Dzhokhar responds with "LOL." This makes Kadyrbayev believe it's a joke when Dzhokhar later texts "you better not text me" and "Come to my room and take whatever you want."

Later that night, Tazhayakov, Kadyrbayev, and Phillipos are let into Dzhokhar's dorm room by Dzhokhar's roommate. Kadyrbayev later receives a text from Dzhokhar that reads, "I'm about to leave if you need something in my room take it." While watching a movie, all three of the guests



Emergency response after the Boston Marathon bombings.

Bombing continued on page 15

FEATURES

Bombing continued from page 14

spot a backpack in the room. The backpack contains about seven six-to-eight inch firecrackers that have been opened and the powder in them has been emptied. This is what Dzhokhar had used to make the bombs. The three friends take the bag and Dzhokhar's laptop to Tazhayakov and Kadyrbayev's apartment. There they begin to freak out as the pieces were coming together telling the story that Dzhokhar is involved in the bombing. Kadyrbayev takes the bag and the laptop and throws both of them into the dumpster behind the apartment complex.

At 11 PM that night, MIT officer Sean Collier is killed on the Cambridge campus. That killing is later linked to the Tsarnaevs.

Friday, April 18, in the early hours of the morning, the two suspects of the bombing hijack a car at gunpoint and take the driver as a hostage. While in the car, the victim is told by one of the suspects that they are the ones who bombed the marathon. The victim is able to escape after the two suspects stop at a gas station. The hostage is able to give a good enough tip that the police track down the two suspects and begin a fire fight. Tamerlan Tsarnaev dies in the gunfight while Dzhokhar is able to elude the police. Later that day, Dzhokhar is found after Boston and the surrounding areas are put on lock down. Dzhokhar is found with gunshot wounds in his head, on his neck, legs and arms. He is transported to a nearby hospital where he is treated for those wounds.

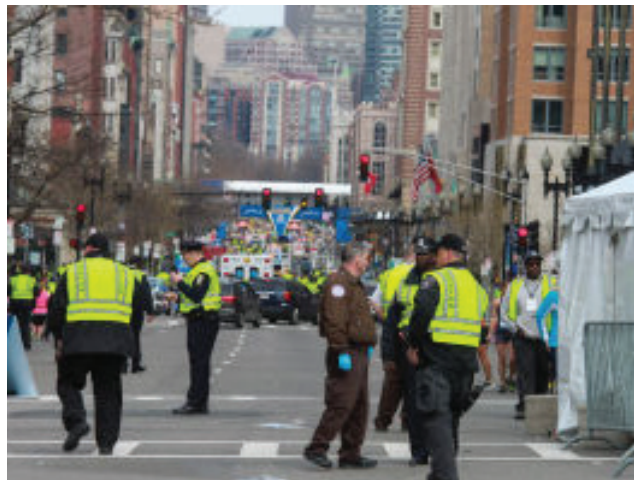
The next two days, Dzhokhar's friends, namely Tazhayakov and Kadyrbayev, are interviewed for background information and their relation to him. They are taken into custody for alleged visa violations.

April 21, The authorities search Dzhokhar's dorm room for possible things that he may have used for the bombs. While searching, they find BBs and the black jacket and white hat that he was wearing on the day of the Marathon.

April 26, Authorities retrieve Dzhokhar's backpack that Kadyrbayev threw more than a week from that date. They find the fireworks, a jar of Vaseline, and other things.

May 1, Azamat Tazhayakov and Dias Kadyrbayev are charged with having willfully "conspired with each other to commit an act against the United States ... by knowingly destroying, concealing and covering up objects belonging to Dzhokhar Tsarnaev." (CNN) Phillipos is charged with having "knowingly and willfully (made) materially false statements to federal investigators." (CNN)

Now the big question is, how will this affect future sporting events? Will people be more anxious when entering an enclosed space such as that? You may see less sold-out games because of the possibility of attacks. Security will definitely be bumped up, but will it be enough? That is the question that is that we all need to consider.



*Heightened security at the
2013 Country Music Marathon*

FEATURES

The Boston Bombings: A First-Hand Experience

By Will Gray

On Monday, April 15, at the Boston Marathon, a tragic terrorist attack happened that people will not forget for a long time. Many runners, who either just finished the race or were about to cross the finish line, suddenly heard a loud bang! Two bombs exploded near the end of the race. While policemen and onlookers ran out to help, others were frozen in horror as time seemed to stop. Dzhokhar Tsarnev and Tamerlan Tsarnaev were the two brothers behind the terrorist attack. It was recently reported that Al Qaeda was their motivation for the strike.

Dr. Stuart Smith, the father of Sam Smith (class of 2016), was at the scene of the bombing when it happened. He explained to me that his goal was to break four hours, so he had to really push himself on the final turn to get his finishing results. About twenty seconds after crossing the finish line, he heard the first bomb go off. He turned around and saw the smoke and thought that it was a cannon celebrating Patriot's Day. However, after the second bomb went off, he knew that something was wrong. He thought maybe that



Dr. Stuart Smith and Will Gray

fireworks had malfunctioned and caused too much smoke, or maybe there was an accidental explosion. He even looked up to make sure it wasn't a repeat of 9-11. When police started to close off the finish area and were moving people up the street, he realized that it was a bomb. He immediately went to the medical tent to see if he could help. Still, after trying his hardest, he didn't know what to do. He didn't know where to go because he didn't know if there were more bombs. The next thing he did was call his wife to let her know he was okay, but they were both confused. He noticed that one side of the street was calm and perplexed, while the other was panicked. All around, everyone was "skittish" and "nervous." It wasn't until a few hours later when he went back to his hotel room and turned on the news that he realized it was a terrorist attack. Dr. Smith let me ask him a few questions.

WG: "What was your finishing time?"

Dr. Smith: "Three hours, fifty-eight minutes, and fifty-five seconds,

which was about twenty seconds before the first bomb."

WG: "How close were you to the explosions?"

Dr. Smith: "About sixty yards away."

WG: "What were your first thoughts?"

Dr. Smith: "I thought it was a cannon or fireworks. The second explosion was larger and contained more debris, which made me suspicious."

WG: "How did you first react?"

Dr. Smith: "The first thing I did was scan my surroundings and tried to figure out where to go. I went to the medical tent to try and help, but they said they didn't need anyone because they already had ambulances and doctors who were standing by to help injured runners."

WG: "What was the atmosphere like?"

Dr. Smith: "It was tense, chaotic, and confused. People were uncertain what had happened and were looking for their families."

The event resulted in the death of three Americans, including Martin Richard, an eight-year-old who ran out to hug his father as he finished the race. This terrorist attack is one that has only made us stronger as Americans. April 15, 2013, Patriots Day, now represents not only standing up for what's right, but also persevering in our darkest hours.

FEATURES

What Do You Hear?

By Drew Powell

When you turn on the news in the morning or at night, what are some of the stories you hear? Do you hear feel-good stories that restore your faith in humanity, or do you hear stories that embarrass you even though you had nothing to do with them? Do you hear the stories of a girl who moved to America, had to learn English, and now is graduating college; or do you hear stories of a man who risked his own life just to save a puppy? Do you hear about a man who assaulted somebody, or about a man who took another man's life in a petty argument? Do you hear about soldiers who come home

from Iraq and Afghanistan to see their families, or do you hear tragic stories of mothers who will never see their sons again or a father who is only able to see his son from behind bars?

Whenever I watch the news, I rarely hear the stories that

warm hearts. Instead, I hear the disheartening stories of kids who made bad decisions that will shape the rest of their lives. I hear the sad stories of women who were kidnapped, or the story of a woman who is accused of killing her twin babies. I don't hear the stories of kids who pick up trash at a local park, so they can enjoy the time with their mothers on Mother's Day. The only breaks you get are commercials or when the scores of the day are announced. Even the weather forecasts lead to stories of people

who lose homes, lives, or precious items in floods or tornadoes. I'm not saying the news should be only stories of happiness and nothing else. I'm saying there should be some balance. Instead of bombarding the public with sad stories, the newscasters should at least mention people who do extraordinary, inspiring things. These stories not only impress me, but they also give me hope. Sadly, I mostly hear depressing stories on the news. What do you hear?



"I'll only give you the paper if you promise not to let the news upset you."

2012 - 2013 HONOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES



Turner Johnson



Jack Hayles



Jackson McFadden

FEATURES



Dr. Love: The Pros and Cons of Having a Summer Girlfriend*

By Dr. Love (a.k.a. Turner Johnson)

Although I have never been able to experience the bittersweet romance that is having a summer girlfriend, I can compile a list of all of the good and bad things that can come from having a girlfriend in the summer. From watching my friends succeed and fail at this game of love, I have come to the conclusion that summer girlfriends do not work.

Even though this is true in my eyes, many good things can come from having a summer girlfriend. The first truly good thing about having a summer girlfriend is that since you do not have school, you can spend more time with her. However, this plan may fall through because both you and she could be out of town for long stints of time. The second good thing about having a summer girlfriend is getting to do fun summer things with her that you cannot do during the school year, such as swimming, camping, running, fishing, boating, golfing, dancing, and last but not least fencing. There are many wonderful things about having a summer girlfriend, but I still think it is better just to chill with friends and make new friends during the summer.

From what I have observed, I can tell the worst part about having a summer girlfriend is having one in the first place. Right there is your first mistake. You are setting yourself up for disappointment. Knowing at the start of the summer that she will be out of town a lot, or you will be out of town a lot is a sign to stop right there. You are forced to wait until she is back in town; you have to suffer through the agony of being alone without her. I understand that many people have memberships at local country clubs and other local pools, so if your girlfriend does not attend the same pool as you, then you can either decide that you will not spend much time at the pool or choose not to spend much time with your special lady. The third thing that is bad with having a summer girlfriend is that both she and you will want to spend time with people that you do not get to see very often. If you have friends that go to another school that you do not see much, you are going to want to spend time with them as well.

In conclusion, if you truly know that you and your girlfriend can make it work through the summer, go for it. I am not telling you to dump her right now, but talk about it with her first. Be prepared going into the summer that you may not see her very often. If things do not work in the summer, see how you both feel during the fall when school starts back up again.

Results may vary

THE FINAL CHAPTER

Jake and the Tribe: The Conclusion

By Joe Moxley

The boys planned their prank on Sam for next weekend. On Friday, Jake and the rest of the gang were hanging out during lunch. “Hey, Jake, what if Sam backs out?” said Rob.

“Oh, he won’t. When I first moved into town, I was desperate for friends. I would do whatever you guys said.”

Just as Jake finished talking, Sam walked up with his tray and said, “Can I eat here?”

Everybody said, “Dude, of course, you don’t have to ask. By the way, tomorrow we’re going down to the river to mess around, you know fish and stuff. You in?”

“Oh man, that sounds awesome; yeah, I’m in.”

“Sweet, see yah at ten o’clock tomorrow,” said Luke.

In the morning, the gang met with Sam and headed for the cave by the river. After a while, the guys got to the beach across from the cave.

“Come on, Sam! We’re going to the cave!” said Jake.

“Um... okay, this is safe, right?” squeaked Sam.

“Oh sure; I’ve been in there before. It’s just a little dark inside.”

“Whatever you say...,” said Sam.

Jake and Sam swam over to the entrance of the cave and stopped for a breather. “What a sec, why are we even going to the cave?” asked Sam.

“Well, to be honest, it is kind of an initiation. I went through it when I moved into town,” answered Jake.

“You guys are crazy.”

“That’s what I thought at first, but you’re only gonna be in there for ten minutes.”

They swam into the cave, and instantly, the light was dimming. Jake actually started to get nervous. Suddenly, a strong current from the river came into the cave and swept the boys far into the cave.

They finally stopped when the water was getting shallow. “Well, we’re gonna die,” said Sam.

“We better try to find our way back.”

The boys, who did not have a flashlight, groped around till they found the wall, and they slowly inched their way forward. Out of nowhere, Sam felt something massive slowly swim through his legs.

“OH MY GOSH! WHAT WAS THAT!” screamed Sam.

Jake got a sudden sense of déjà vu. “This is definitely not going to be fun,” said Jake.

For what seemed like hours, they crawled through tunnel after tunnel. They were losing hope and becoming desperate.

“Let’s rest a while. I’m stinking tired.”

Jake, who had watched his fair share of survival shows, said, “Nope, we gotta keep going. If we stop now, we will not ever get up again.”

As they rounded a corner, they saw light at the end of the tunnel.

“NO WAY!” screamed Jake.

Sam, who was so tired, almost cried.

When Sam and Jake got back to the beach, they sprawled out across the ground.

The other guys were fishing. One of them asked, “What’s the matter with you?”

Exasperatedly, Jake said, “We got lost in the cave for hours; didn’t you notice?”

Luke said, “Jake, Sam and you have been in that cave for only twenty minutes. You are crazy.”

“That’s not possible, I thought we were in there for forever,” said Sam.

“We would’ve looked for you if you were gone that long,” pointed out Rob.

It took Jake and Sam a while to calm down; eventually they broke out in laughter, but Jake was starting to feel guilty even though nobody was hurt.

“I’m done with pranks.”

The sponsors and staff of Top of the Hill are proud to reveal our author’s true identity and to thank Joe Moxley for four entertaining episodes of his serialized short story.

ENTERTAINMENT

Rodizio is Surpreendente (Amazing)!!!

By Turner Johnson

On Saturday, April 20, 2013 my father and I journeyed to Rodizio Grill for a dinner which we will never forget. Upon pulling up to the front of Rodizio on 2nd Avenue in downtown Nashville, my father and I gave the car to the valet, and we entered the majestic restaurant. Once we walked in, we were bombarded by wonderful smells of rotisserie meats. We were greeted by our server, Maria, and we were off to our table. My night of trying new things began with our appetizers. We were brought three appetizers; fried bananas (*Banana Fritas*) coated with cinnamon sugar, cheese rolls (*Pao de Queijo*), and baked polenta. All three were delicious and a great way to start off the meal. The first thing that I ordered was a



Rodizio Grill on Second Avenue

Brazilian soda called Antarctica. This soda was a wonderful blend of cherry and orange. After that I went to the huge salad bar. This salad bar had everything; typical salads along with bacon, cheeses, collard greens, pastrami, beef stroganoff, and even quail eggs, gross-sounding, I know, but they were good. After my awesome experience at the salad bar it was time for the main event: the meat! Rodizio offers over one dozen different rotisserie meats. Lucky for me Rodizio was in "Wild Game Season." This event in October and April means that different and exotic meats were served in addition to the regular rotation. The most exotic meats were my favorite. I dined

upon chicken hearts (*Coracao*), wild boar, and best of all, rattle snake sausage. Surprisingly I liked all of it. The other wonderful meats I had were Brazilian pot roast (*Assado*), turkey wrapped in bacon (*Peru com Bacon*), top sirloin (*Picanha*, a Brazilian specialty), garlic sirloin (*Bife com Alho*), tri-tip (*Maminha*), sweet and spicy chicken (*Frango Agri-Doce*), tilapia, and a guest favorite, grilled pineapple (*Abacaxi*). After my enormous meat intake, I was stuffed, but I had a little bit of room for cream brulee, some of the best I have ever had, but their other desserts looked great too, including a decadent chocolate cake and Brazilian flan. After consuming about 4000 calories, I was stuffed and happy. The service, atmosphere, and food were all excellent at Rodizio, and that is why I have decided to give it a 10/10 on the Turner Johnson Scale. I would highly recommend Rodizio to anyone interested in meat.

Survival Tips for a Safe Summer

1. *If you are riding in it, wear a seat belt.*
2. *If you are riding on it, wear a helmet.*
3. *Don't eat yellow snow cones unless you ordered a lemon one!*
4. *"Hey guys watch this?" is usually followed by a really poor decision. Be smart and be safe!*



ENTERTAINMENT

Annie Hall: An Overlooked Gem

By Peter Taylor

In my third and final installment of Classic Movies Revisited, I am going to take a different path and take a look at Woody Allen's 1977 comedy, *Annie Hall*. Many casual moviegoers know *Annie Hall* as the movie that beat *Star Wars* at the 50th Academy Awards for Best Picture, but in many ways, *Annie Hall* has been overshadowed by *Star Wars*. I love *Star Wars* as much as or more than the next guy, but people seem to have forgotten or are unaware in the first place just how great a movie *Annie Hall* is. I am going to examine the film to see if it deserved to beat out the special effects and direction of *Star Wars* for the most prestigious award in film.

Annie Hall stars Woody Allen as a Jewish comedian named Alvy Singer. The film follows him as he tries to figure out what went wrong with his relationship with the film's titular character, Annie Hall, portrayed wonderfully by Diane Keaton, who won the Academy Award for Best Actress. Alvy narrates the film as he skips back and forth throughout the

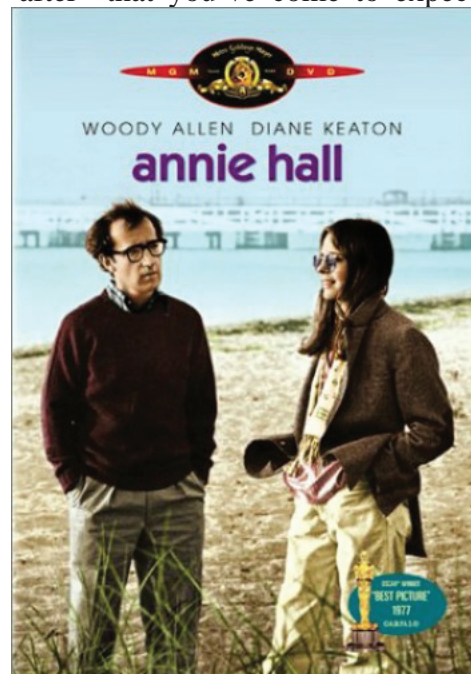


relationship and other parts of his life, portraying the complicated and hilarious relationship that Annie and Alvy had. These two characters are part of what makes the film great: quirky and individualized characters. Their relationship is funny but still remains grounded in reality. The dialogue is also realistic and intelligent, perfectly matching the characters. Not one line is out of place.

Throughout the film, there are many scenes where you feel as if you've intruded upon a private moment of two lovers. There are not many movies that make you feel that one. Allen uses a technique in the film known as "breaking the fourth wall," where one of the film's characters, usually the narrator, directly addresses the viewer (see also: *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*). He does this to great comedic effect.

When I say comedic, you can't get the wrong idea. This is definitely a romantic comedy, and a hilarious one at that. However, it is not a comedy as you would normally envision one. In movies like *Talladega Nights* or *Grown Ups*, there is a joke a minute, and every single one, despite being incredibly stupid, makes you burst into fits of uncontrolled laughter. *Annie Hall's* comedy is different: the humor is smart and witty. There is no slapstick humor, and the dirty jokes (of which

there are plenty) still manage to be intelligent instead of wholly crude. This is the real strength of the film: jokes that aren't quite laugh out loud funny, but rather jokes that also make you think, and by the time you've finished thinking, you can't stop laughing. The romantic aspect is never cheesy, and the ending isn't the usual "even after all of these random romantic troubles that would never happen, the two stay together and live happily ever after" that you've come to expect



from romantic comedies.

Let's talk about the technical aspects of the film. In comparison to many of the movies we see today, where the camera is changing angles

Classic Movies continued on page 22



ENTERTAINMENT

Classic Movies continued from page 21

every second and we can barely keep up with what is going on, Allen takes a more minimalist approach. He uses shots for longer durations of time (Roger Ebert stated that the average time of a shot in the film is 14.7 seconds), sometimes filming entire conversations between characters from only one shot. He usually contrasts this with rapid fire camera switches, though not nearly as often as his trademark long and wide shot. The cinematography (the art of letting the shots that the director has planned become the best they can be) is well done, as to be expected from Gordon Willis, known famously as the "Prince of Darkness" due to his use of dark lighting in movies such as *The Godfather*. Allen has stated that *Annie Hall* was the first really good

film that he made, as his previous ones were comedies more in line with the movies about which I talked above. You really have to give it to Woody Allen: not only is he a great director, he is a very talented actor (I feel he should have won for Best Actor his performance), and he wrote *Annie Hall*, one of the most cleverly worded and well done original screenplays ever.

The Verdict

So, what's the deal? Did *Annie Hall* deserve the 1977 Academy Award for Best Motion Picture? I'll tell you that it hasn't deserved the ignorance it has received by being overshadowed by the whole subculture spawned by *Star Wars*, even if *Star Wars* is the better film. But is it? I'll leave that to you to

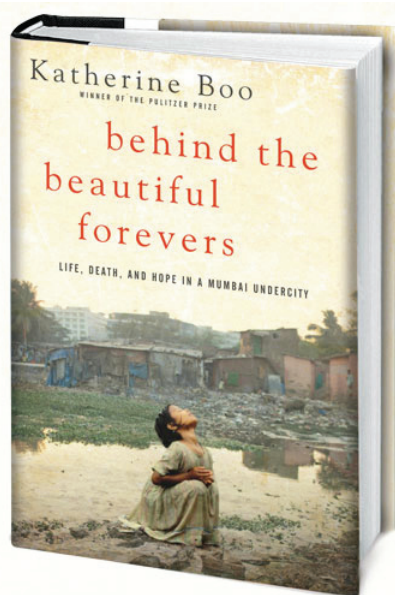
decide.

Rating: 10/10

I would like to dedicate this article to Roger Ebert (1942-2013) who recently passed away from cancer. Ebert inspired my love of movies and I would never have written this article series if not for him. RIP.



The All-School Read for Fall 2013



Behind the Beautiful Forevers

By
Katherine Boo



Photo credit: Heleen Welvaart

ENTERTAINMENT

Iron Man 3 *Spoilers*

By Reilly Dodd

There is a basic rule for movie trilogies: the first one is the best and doesn't cease to amaze viewers even after all these years, but it is often a very conservative movie because it introduces us to a whole new world, and the producers didn't want to make any mistakes by trying new things. Then there's the second that, depending on the success of the first movie, will try to take us further into the world of the first movie or stay the same and wring out any money left in the franchise. Regardless, the second movie isn't as praised as the first for one reason or the other by critics, but may still do well with the populace. Then the third movie comes out that tries to squeeze out any money that they didn't gain from the first two, but surprisingly is a massive hit with the people. The *Iron Man* series seems to follow this rule quite well.

This movie takes place after the events of the second movie, and a figure known as the Mandarin arises, the cut-and-paste Middle Eastern baddie that America has to gun down with their "democracy." War Machine, a. k. a. Iron Patriot, (I wonder how hard it was to come up with that name) has led the case until one of the Mandarin's goons decides to attack Stark Enterprises' head of security. This action leads Tony Stark, who's been on the



fritz lately, to brazenly insult the Mandarin and even give him his address. The Mandarin proceeds to completely destroy every inch of Tony's mansion, and through a weird set of circumstances ends up in Tennessee (also known as hillbilly land, the land of bad accents and cowboy outfits, to our friends up North) stranded without a suit and declared dead by the public.

My first real problem with this movie is how fast I figured out the plot. It might have taken me thirty minutes out of the 150 minute movie to guess who the real villain was (sorry but the acting of the "Mandarin" was so bad that anyone could've guessed he was a fake), how the Mandarin actually terrorized the world, and how Tony was going to solve the problem.

The second grievance against the movie is the comedy. Tony Stark in the past has been a suave playboy millionaire philanthropist who always knows how to annoy people and be funny while doing it. This time around the comedy seems more forced and less funny because after three movies the same old joke gets a little boring. This movie is still witty and will make you laugh at a few select points, but not like

the other two.

The third fault in this sequel is with Tony again; he takes on the role of a war-torn vet, but in a stark contrast to his usual self, this role seems again forced and less realistic. One final blemish on this movie is the relationship between Piper and Tony. I had absolutely no problem with it and even enjoyed it until the final few scenes, where the writers got lazy and decided to take a trip to generic romance land and completely throw away the good things about it.

*****Spoilers Begin*****

They kill off Piper and as she falls from a flaming big rig, Tony just looks emotionless at her burning and says, "whatever" then proceeds to walk away unaffected. He goes off and then without emotion tells the evil doer that Piper was perfect and then beats him up. This stereotypical "You killed my girlfriend and now I'm mad" approach has lost its luster and is even further tarnished by Piper miraculously surviving at the end. They pretty much tried for a cheap tear-jerker and ruined it by Tony's expressionless face and emotionless reaction coupled with Piper's safe return.

*****Spoilers End*****

I have decided not to rate this movie because I have heard a mix of reports saying that this movie was great and that the movie was awful, and my opinion probably won't stop you from seeing it (something that I do not advise).

ENTERTAINMENT

The Diversity of Points of View

By John Dugan

This year in the 8th grade we have read and discussed many novels and plays such as *Julius Caesar*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, and *Lord of the Flies*. All have expanded the cognitive ability of every student by presenting thought-provoking questions about the psychology of the human mind when conflicted with greed, power, selfishness, and fickleness. Aside from these works, I have personally begun reading George R. R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series and most notably the first entry, *A Game of Thrones*. Along with the reading, I have also started watching the television adaptation. The work and its show have changed the way I examine these morally questioning topics.

A Game of Thrones is set in a fictional world of Westeros and Essos, where summers and winters can last several years. It is established well in the beginning that a fruitful summer is ending and a long bearing winter awaits the world. Winter represents chaos, death, fear, and uncertainty whereas summer signifies the embodiment of relative peace and harmony. A power struggle for the title of King of the Seven Kingdoms, or more generally known as the "Iron Throne," between many different houses, containing many different characters, cultures, and backgrounds ensues in this time of political unrest. *A Game of Thrones*

explores the conflict in a manner where the story is told through a variety of character's eyes that brings insight to their own motives, goals, ambitions, and



emotions. This style allows the reader to experience a character's likability fluctuate throughout the novels with each event that occurs. Even some of the most seemingly unlikable characters in the story can become sympathetic to the reader at some point. Through the text, characters' feelings toward many prominent subjects in today's world such as religion, social class, love, and evil are divulged. The element that makes these books so enjoyable is lack of a clear protagonist or antagonist in the conflict. The series harps on the old philosophy that morality is not black and white but shades of grey. It all depends on the personal views of the reader because, "When you play the game of thrones, you win or you die. There is no middle ground" (408). This statement personifies the type of environment that the struggle for "Iron Throne" has, and that everyone is looking out for themselves and their own goals. George R. R. Martin keeps each reader on their toes as many characters that are held dear by the reader may be killed in the heat of the conflict at the most unexpected moments. Nothing is impossible in the game of thrones.

As said early in my discussion, *A Song of Ice and Fire* has been transformed for television by HBO in

the smash hit series *Game of Thrones*. David Benioff and D. B. Weiss were tasked to create the series when HBO bought the rights to the series in 2007. They envisioned that the show's seasons would cover each of the books in the series. One of the first descriptions of the show by Benioff is that it is *The Sopranos* in Middle Earth." In the spring of 2011, the show aired its pilot and from then on proved to be a tremendous success. Superb screen writing and production by the creators, outstanding acting, and near perfect execution have transformed the world of *A Song of Ice and Fire* into a worldwide phenomenon. *Game of Thrones* is very true to the book series and properly portrays all characters and events. Much as Peter Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* films achieved, *Game of Thrones* has introduced high fantasy fiction into the mainstream media and population. *Game of Thrones* boasts one of the most vast and active fan bases in all of entertainment. I, myself, look forward every Sunday to the new episode in the show. Critics have raved about the series and consistently rate weekly *Game of Thrones* episodes at the top of their favorite television events. The show has also won a plethora of awards and nominations for its merit.

A Song of Ice and Fire in its entire media gives great insight to conflicts and the different people that participate in "a game of thrones." The series is not like any that has come before it, and its unique style is what gives it spark. *A Song of Ice and Fire* is truly a great read, that will change one's view on fantasy and the format of all types of books, and *Game of Thrones* is a revolutionary television show that will act as a model for future fantasy and drama series.

ENTERTAINMENT

42: A True Game Changer

By Ben Rosenthal

As always, there are some minor spoilers in this article; read at your own discretion.

This year Hollywood made a great decision in making *42*, a movie about the famous and remarkable story of Jackie Robinson. The movie was incredible and showed what a difference one man can make on a world scale, even if he does something as inconsequential as playing baseball.

The movie begins with Jackie's humble beginnings as a player in the Negro Leagues as a shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs. Branch Rickey (portrayed by Harrison Ford), the owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers, believed that he needed to bring the first black player into the MLB because when he was in college, he had the opportunity



to speak up for a black player on his own baseball team and he did not, a point that haunted him and changed his character into someone who wanted to make a difference in this world. Jackie had the strength and talent to play in the league, but he needed the courage not to fight back against discrimination. Rickey helped him get the courage he needed, but he still had to face many obstacles throughout his career.

The movie was one of the best I have seen this year, and although not an obscure sports story as in many others like *Remember the Titans*, the storyline was just as interesting and inspiring. Chadwick Boseman does a great job

portraying a Jackie Robinson who is confident in his skills as a professional baseball player but at the same time confused about his position in the civil rights side of his career and his struggles with turning the other cheek to abuse. The other actors and actresses do a wonderful job of presenting the struggles of this time period, and the movie also depicts the story of the people inside baseball management. It expertly displays how while Jackie inspired America, Rickey was the man who started the legend. The movie also illustrates the tension in America at the time because of Robinson's being the first African American player in any professional American sports league. For example, after a scrimmage with the Dodgers' minor league team, a mob of enraged people forced Jackie to move to a nearby city. There are other examples of the cruelty towards Jackie Robinson, but the point is that the populous didn't accept Jackie's joining the league. As a basic synopsis of my review, this movie was not only a great sports movie, but also a film about civil rights during the 1940s that has painted a clearer picture of a turbulent time in American history



The Sponsors and Editors of

Top of the Hill would like to thank the MBA Mothers and Fathers Clubs for their generous support this year.

ENTERTAINMENT

To Boldly Reinvent What Has Been Done Before

By Peter Taylor

In 2009, director J.J. Abrams boldly went where no man has gone before when he released *Star Trek*, a reboot of the classic television show and movies about a captain and crew of 23rd century space explorers and their starship, the USS *Enterprise*. Abrams introduced brand new actors playing re-imagined yet still familiar characters, a brand new story, and an updated design and feel of a classic franchise for the 21st century. To top it off, the film established an alternate continuity from the television show and its spin offs to avoid restricting itself within the bounds of canon. Critics, hardcore fans, and newcomers alike all acclaimed Abrams' effort, and many wondered if he could top his feat with a sequel. With *Star Trek Into Darkness*, Abrams and crew do just that: top their previous success with a solid storyline, exceptional cast, and a good script chock full of references and homage to the franchise's past.

The story begins on a planet of primitive aliens where the *Enterprise* is on a mission to stop a volcano from exploding by inserting Spock (portrayed by Zachary Quinto), the

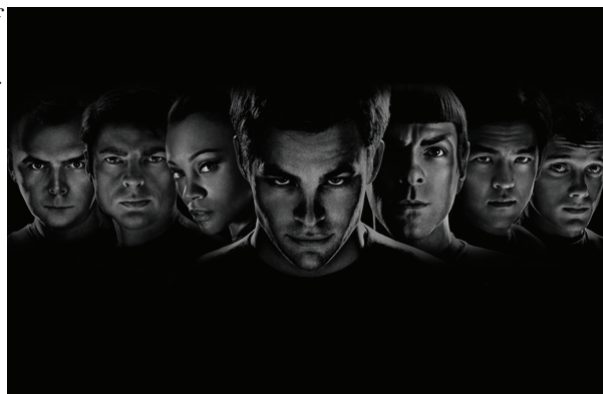


logic-driven, Vulcan first officer, into the volcano to use a device which will render the lava inert, saving a developing civilization. However, things go wrong, and Captain James T. Kirk (Chris Pine) violates the Prime Directive, a Starfleet rule that states that one cannot interfere in the development of another species, to save his comrade. This sets up a key theme of the movie: how far one will go to accomplish his objective. It sets up the characters well, and even within two minutes of the opening, Spock spouts a reference to 1982's *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*: "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few." Nice.

The premise of the movie is fairly straightforward: John Harrison (wonderfully and chillingly portrayed by Benedict Cumberbatch), an agent of Starfleet, has gone rogue and has executed a terrorist attack on a Starfleet base in London. Admiral Marcus sends Kirk, Spock, and the *Enterprise* to go after Harrison, who is hiding on the home world of the Klingons, enemies of Starfleet and the United Federation of Planets. After the premise is set and the plot really gets going, writers Roberto

Orci, Alex Kurtzman, and Damon Lindelof propel the viewers through a fast moving plot with several twists, turns, and subtle references to the older movies, including a wonderfully done revelation about the nature of Mr. John Harrison.

This leads me to the cast. Oh, the cast. I still get chills just thinking about Cumberbatch's performance as the film's lead villain. Unlike many but not all *Star Trek* villains, Harrison is ruthless and evil but has very clear motives for the action he takes. The icy stares and cold sneers of Cumberbatch elevate this villain a cut above the rest. The rest of the cast is nearly as good. Chris Pine returns with a reigning performance as Captain James T. Kirk, the rebellious and youthful Starfleet officer who is countered by Zachary Quinto's portrayal of Spock. Quinto truly shines when Spock has to ditch the logic for a full on force of emotion late into the film's third act. The



rest of the *Enterprise*'s crew is still excellent. One thing I did like better about *Into Darkness* than *Star Trek* was the balance given to the rest of the crew. I felt that *Star Trek* focused far too much on Uhura as a character, when in the show she was hardly

Star Trek continued on page 27

SPORTS

Star Trek continued from page 26

there. This movie did a much better job of keeping her back a bit while still giving her time to shine. Zoe Saldana, Karl Urban, Bruce Greenwood, Peter Weller, and the exceedingly attractive Alice Eve round out the rest of the main cast.

This movie is very well directed. Abrams was made fun of for his frequent use of lens flare in the first film (where there is a lot of light on the camera), and he tones it down a bit this time without losing the directorial trademark it gives him. The special effects are well done as is to be expected with a big budget

blockbuster, especially the starship sequences, and the representation of a futuristic Earth is top notch. This movie makes me extremely hopeful for *Star Wars VII*, which Abrams will be directing.

The ongoing complaint of many non-Trekkie critics out there is the wealth of references to the older *Star Trek* material. While I see their complaint, as a huge *Trek* fan, I LOVE the references to all the old episodes, and it does not harm the film in the slightest.

The Verdict

With a solid storyline and

great direction, this well acted sci-fi blockbuster is brimming with subtle references to old *Trek* while still pleasing newcomers. *Star Trek Into Darkness* tops its 2009 prequel and is a must see this summer. Now, if only I could get my friends to see it.

Rating: 9.43

Ranking relative to the rest of the movies: 2nd Best (Nothing can beat *Star Trek II: Wrath of Khan* with that ending scene.)

The End of the Road: My Trip to the Final Four

By Bradford Holladay

Right when the ball is thrown into the air by the referee, you know that no matter who wins the game, the experience will be great. The 2013 Final Four was held in Atlanta with the four teams of Louisville, Michigan, Syracuse, and Wichita State. Watching the games at home is more comfortable, cheaper, and also provides a better view, but being at the Final Four in person is different. The cheering crowds, the massive arena, and the



chance to watch the best college teams in the country allow for an incredible atmosphere that you will never forget. Louisville played Wichita State in the first game of the Final Four. It was a very close game,

but the Louisville Cardinals secured their spot in the championship game with a score of 72-68. The Michigan Wolverines beat the Syracuse Oranges in another close game with a score of 61-56. Louisville and Michigan faced

off in the championship game, but Louisville stayed strong and defeated Michigan with the score of 82-76.

The scores and the games are not all of the entertainment packed into the Final Four. The people who attend the championship game can see the reactions and celebrations

of the team who wins. Events often missed when the game is viewed on television due to commercial breaks. The memories

that are made each year at the Final Four are unforgettable, and no matter how many times March comes back around, it will never get old.



SPORTS

R.A. Dickey's 60 Minutes Interview

By Riley Steanson

On Sunday, April 14, *60 Minutes* aired the interview with R.A. Dickey about his childhood and the story of how he came to where he is today as the only knuckle-baller in the major leagues. This interview revealed some disturbing facts about R.A.'s early childhood. It also told facts about what caused him to go down to the Minors several times. In addition, there was also an overtime video that told about his troubled life as a father-to-be.

The first part of the interview involved where R.A. grew up in Nashville and what his life was like. Leslie Stahl and R.A. took a walk down the street where R.A. grew up, and he identified the house where he used to live. R.A. grew up as a child of a single alcoholic mother. His father moved out when he was seven. His mother would fall asleep on him as a result from drinking a lot. When R.A. needed his mother the most, she was rarely there for him.

One summer when R.A.'s mother was working and could not be there to take care of him, she hired a teenage babysitter. During the night R.A. wanted to watch cartoons, but the babysitter led him upstairs to the bedroom. On that dreadful summer night, he was abused at the age of eight. This same thing happened three other times during the summer. Think about how you would feel if your babysitter abused you at age eight. R.A. did not



R.A. Dickey with Leslie Stahl of 60 Minutes

tell anyone. He said the reason for his silence was that he felt the abuse was partially his fault and that he was rotten for being involved.

Later that year, he was playing by a rundown garage, and a man appeared and raped him. R.A. comments on this event in the interview, saying that this abuse felt entirely different. While being held down by a stronger man than he was, R.A. gave into it and just wanted to get it over with, as it was a terrible thing to go through at age eight.

These experiences caused R.A. to have much anger in his life for the next few years. Until he got a full scholarship to one of the finest institutions in Nashville, Montgomery Bell Academy. There he met the various teachers, coaches, and friends that he has remembered throughout his life. There he also met a classmate's sister. He said the experience was "like lightning striking." R.A. did everything he could think of to catch her attention. After becoming great friends, he "played the ace." He proposed to her at age 13! How much courage that must have taken to do that. However, they did not get married until after his junior year in college.

After his junior year, R.A. was the Texas Rangers' first round

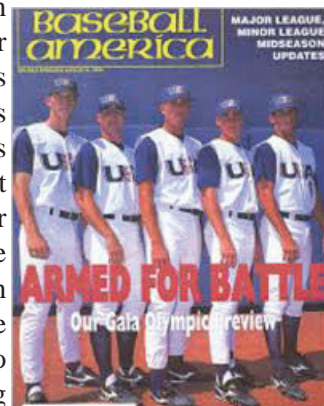
draft pick in the MLB draft. He would have had a huge contract, but when the trainer for the Rangers saw a photo of R.A. on the US Olympic team, he noticed that R.A.'s arm was bent at a weird angle. R.A. got an MRI that revealed that he did not have an ulnar collateral ligament in his elbow. This ligament basically holds the elbow together. It was a

miracle that he was ever able to throw a baseball, much less as fast and as well as he did. Because of this problem, he lost a massive signing bonus. He bounced around in the minor leagues for years and was told that in order to be able to stay in baseball he had to do something different as a pitcher.

It was then he started working on his knuckleball. The only problem was that there was not a pitching coach that knew how to throw the knuckleball. R.A. had to teach himself.

R.A. got to show his new pitch for the first time in a game against the Detroit Tigers. In the two and two-thirds innings that he pitched, he set an MLB record by giving up six home-runs in this short outing. It was clear that R.A. had some work to do before he had mastered the knuckleball. For the next ten years, R.A. played for

R.A. Dickey continue on page 29



The Infamous Photo

SPORTS



Commodore Corner

By Ben Coulthard

As of 5/12/13



The Vanderbilt Commodores are in the homestretch for one major sport, but are in a bit of a dead zone in two others.

Baseball: The Vanderbilt baseball team has clinched the SEC Regular Season Championship after a sweep of the Kentucky Wildcats on the weekend of May 10-12. As of the 12th, the baseball team has an astounding record of 45-6 with four more games left to play. The Commodores, led by head coach Tim Corbin, have been in the top 5 in most polls for the whole year, and after the sweep of the Wildcats and the losses by former number 1 North Carolina Tar Heels, the Commodores should be the new number one seed in many polls. After being featured in *Sports Illustrated*, the Vanderbilt pitching staff, led by aces Kevin Ziemek and Tyler Beede, hasn't had any problems this year. Beede, who is 13-0 with a 1.73 ERA, and Ziemek, who is 10-2 with a solid 2.00 ERA, have been names in the running for SEC Pitcher of the Year. The so-called "Frisbee thrower," Brian Miller, has been solid coming out of the bullpen and shutting opponents down. Miller has a 1.08 ERA, a 5-0 record, and 13 saves to his name. Tony Kemp, Mike Yastrzemski, and Connor Harrell have led the Vandy bats this year, and all three are in the running for SEC Player of the Year. Kemp is batting .404 with 80 hits, 27 RBIs, and 26 stolen bases, leading the team with a total number of 111 stolen bases. Yastrzemski is hitting .335 with 63 hits and 36 RBIs. Harrell is hitting .319 with 10 home runs, 57 RBIs, and 61 hits. Tim Corbin has done a superb job managing a team with such talent. I believe without a doubt he is the SEC Coach of the Year. Even though the team has clinched the regular season, they have high expectations of themselves. They believe they can win the SEC Tournament, go through regionals and super regionals, and make it all the way to the College World Series in Omaha.

Basketball: The Vanderbilt basketball team is looking to rebound this upcoming year after last year's disappointing season. This summer and fall, the team and Coach Kevin Stallings will be working hard to make this season a success.

Football: The Vanderbilt football team's season has "anchored down" and the hopes and expectations down on West End are high. Even after the losses of running back Zac Stacy and quarterback Jordan Rodgers, the returns of Jordan Matthews and Chris Boyd mixed with the arrival of Austyn Carta-Samuels at the quarterback position and Wesley Tate and Brian Kimbrow at running back, the football team has already been predicted to go to a bowl game.

R.A. Dickey continue from page 28

several different teams.

During these years, R.A. had troubled times along with what was happening in his career. He was caught having an affair with another woman while his wife was eight months pregnant. R.A. hit rock-bottom at this time. At one point, he attached a garden hose to the tailpipe of his car and ran it into the driver's window. He put a towel in the crack of the window to make sure that none of the carbon monoxide escaped. He was a second from turning the car key, but he did not. He then proceeded to go to therapy where he finally dug up his 20-year-old secret about his childhood abuse.

Then R.A. decided to swim the

Missouri River. R.A. thought that if he was not going to be good in baseball he might as well try to do something different. As he was swimming across, his muscles began to give in. He started to sink. He then prayed to God asking him to take care of his family and forgive him of his sins. That point was the time when R.A. touched the bottom, literally and figuratively. He got the adrenaline to push off the bottom and saw one of his friends holding his hand out to help him.

That point is as far as the *60 Minutes*

went on R.A.'s life. If you wish to see these videos, go to CBS News and then go to *60 Minutes*. Proceed to search for "The Knuckle-baller: R.A. Dickey finds his perfect pitch," which will take you straight to the video.



SPORTS



MLB Season To Date

As of 5/12/13

By Ben Coulthard



Many teams were surrounded with high expectations after a free agency with many names getting traded or picked up, such as the LA Dodgers or Atlanta Braves. Some teams were just under pressure to do well. Yes, I'm talking about the New York Yankees. Many others were under low expectations just as usual, such as the lowly Houston Astros or overpaid Miami Marlins teams. However, many teams have put up a real fight through about 36 games.

Big names such as Adrian Gonzalez, Justin and B.J. Upton, Hanley Ramirez, R.A. Dickey, and Josh Hamilton were dealt to new teams near the end of or after the 2012 season. However, not many of the highly touted players have been able to play or perform near their proper level of play.

Gonzalez has been one of only very few bright spots in the Dodger organization batting .350, hitting 4 home runs and having 26 RBIs. The Upton brothers, who were dealt to the Braves, have been producing and playing very well. B.J has not done well at the plate batting only .151 with just 19 hits and 47 strikeouts. Justin, however, has made his former team, the Arizona Diamondbacks, look very foolish for trading him away. He is batting .289 with 13 home runs and driving in 23 RBIs. Hanley Ramirez has barely played at all after injuring himself during the World Baseball Classic and re-injuring himself after only four games.

After a Cy Young season, R.A. Dickey was slated to have another great year after getting picked up by the Toronto Blue Jays. However, R.A.'s season has not been great. He is 2-5 with a 5.06 ERA. He left one start with back and neck stiffness and missed a start.

There have been no perfect games or no-hitters thrown so far by any pitchers; however, there have been numerous one-hitters thrown. No batters have hit for the cycle or had any three-home-run games. However, many new rookies have emerged into the game. Shelby Miller, Evan Gattis, and Hyun-Jin Ryu have made themselves frontrunners to win the MLB Rookie of the Year. Gattis' story has been a feel-good story. He was a very talented player in high school and college, but a knee injury made him give up baseball. He then went through the job world as a parking valet, working at a pizza parlor, becoming a ski-lift operator, and a janitor. However, Gattis' stepbrother played in college, and his coach offered Gattis a spot on the team. He then proceeded to bat .403 and hit 11 home runs. He was drafted in the 23rd round by Atlanta and started for the Braves as Brian McCann was on the DL. Gattis went on to make his name known. He has batted .252 with 7 home runs and 20 RBIs.

Predictions:

AL Cy Young: Clay Buchholz/Yu Darvish
AL MVP: Mike Trout

NL Cy Young: Jordan Zimmermann
NL MVP: Justin Upton

SPORTS

The NFL Draft

By Andrew Kaplan



The 2013 NFL Draft had many surprises, including several offensive linemen drafted in the top ten such as OT Eric Fisher, drafted 1st overall to the Kansas City Chiefs, and only one quarterback in the entire first round, E.J. Manuel, a surprising first choice for quarterback out of Florida State. Five of the ten first picks were offensive linemen, showing just how valuable the big men up front can be, protecting the quarterback.

For the Tennessee Titans, the draft was an overall success, improving the

most with first round pick Chance Warmack from Alabama at guard and 2nd rounder Justin Hunter at wide receiver out of the University of Tennessee. Although I have no respect for UT, Justin Hunter will be another reliable deep threat that the Titans need for Jake Locker. Speaking of Jake Locker, he will now have a fantastic new guard in Chance Warmack, who showed his abilities as blocker for the best rushing attack in the NCAA. Both of these players have tremendous upsides and very little downside at the moment. The Titans also grabbed some solid additions in later rounds, such as defensive backs Blidi Wreh-Wilson (1st round), Khalid Wooten (6th round), and Daimion Stafford (7th round) out

of Connecticut, Nevada, and Nebraska respectively. Other additions included Zaviar Gooden, Brian Schwenke, and Lavar Edwards. The Titans had a successful 2013 draft, and I would give them a solid B grade for their picks.

Throughout the NFL, several teams gained weapons in areas of need that will make the team a huge threat now in other areas. For example, the Green Bay Packers drafted Eddie Lacey out of Alabama in the 2nd round, easily the best running back in the draft. Without Lacey, the Packers won a Superbowl with the passing campaign led by Pro Bowler and Super Bowl MVP Aaron Rodgers. With the edition of this 'Bama stud, the Packers appear to be possibly the biggest offensive threat this coming season with a balanced passing and rushing attack.

The 2013 Masters

By Jake Evans



The 2013 Masters, played at Augusta, Georgia went from Thursday, April 11 to Sunday, April 14. Approximately 35,000 ticket-holders attended each of the four days, and millions of fans watched on TV.

Fourteen-year-old Chinese golfer Tianlang Guan made an amateur appearance at The Masters, shooting an extraordinary three over par (+3) at one of the most revered golf courses in the world. That score means he is the youngest player ever to make the Masters cut. Also, to make it even more unbelievable, he is the youngest

player by two years. To put Tianlang's accomplishment into perspective, imagine Cal Rieke making the Masters cut.

MBA's very own Brandt Snedeker tied for sixth place with scores of 70 on Thursday, 70 on Friday, 69 on Saturday, and 75 on Sunday. He played well all week, until the last round where he choked and shot +3, finishing at -4. At one point, he was even tied for first place. Brandt played spectacularly, and I hope that we all get to watch him for many years to come.

Four-time-champion Tiger Woods did not play as well as he was expected to play. Woods was a favored player to win the tournament but couldn't pull it off. He finished tied for fourth place and was two under par. Last

year's Masters champion Bubba Watson finished tied for fiftieth and was +7 in the tournament. Watson's performance was a bit of a disappointment to some, but one reason for his surprising score was on the par three, 12th hole Watson hit it into the water three times, which meant he would finish the par three with a score of ten, +7 for the hole.

On the final hole, Adam Scott tied with past champion Angel Cabrera, which meant they had to go into a playoff. The first playoff was on hole 18, where they both scored par. They then went to hole 10 and played another playoff where former Masters champion Angel Cabrera missed his birdie putt by less than an inch which gave Scott a chance to sink the putt that would win him the green jacket. Although Scott isn't exactly a great putter, he sunk his birdie to win the green jacket. Australia's Adam Scott is the winner of 2013 Masters, finishing nine under par.

SPORTS

Rutgers' Coaching Fiasco

By Hamilton Garber

Rutgers' coaching situation has been the highlight of many newsreels on ESPN or even world news during the month of March. This coverage is due to the basketball coach, Mick Rice Jr., being suspended and ultimately fired because of his despicable coaching behavior. His terrible behavior included physical and verbal abuse of his players during practice and his explosive short temper getting in the way of his coaching. He was suspended for three games in December 2012 and given a hefty fine, but worse was still to come.



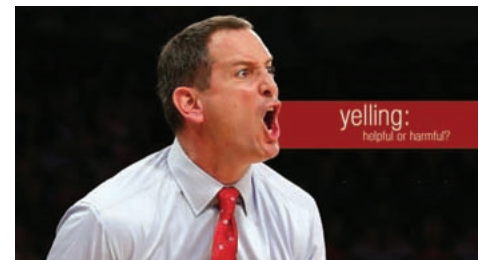
Mike Rice of Rutgers

This conduct had gone under the radar for quite some time, unbeknownst to the general public, including many Rutgers fans. The situation escalated on April 2, 2012 when a video was leaked to several Rutgers officials who then passed it on. The video included clips of head coach Mike Rice throwing basketballs at his players, hitting them with equipment, excessively swearing, and making slurs toward his team. After the video was released to the public, people were shocked. His actions were

considered heinous and even childlike to the directors at Rutgers.

Almost instantaneously, the President of Rutgers, Robert Barchi, had Rice fired. Another conflict arose during this scandal. Eric Murdock, the assistant coach, was fired in July 2012 for reporting the abuse of the players, and he is now suing for "wrongful termination," or illegitimate reasons for firing.

Overall, this event has brought new light into how coaches treat their players. It may be okay to get fired up about a sport, but it should never be taken to the point where people are harassed and physically harmed by their own coach.



Predators: A Scheduled Collapse

By Andrew Kaplan

The Nashville Predators were due for a rebuilding year this season. After losing alternate captain Ryan Suter, the Nashville Predators found themselves short-handed defensively and in many other positions throughout the roster. The Predators finished the season with a 16-23-9 record. With a lockout-shortened season, the Predators never put a winning formula together. Goaltender Pekka Rinne struggled,



finishing the season with a career worst save percentage and a 15-16 record. The franchise player had an off year, possibly due to his hip issues (surprising surgery

following the season). In order for the Predators to contend in the NHL, Pekka Rinne has to

be as consistent and supernatural as he has been in the past few years. The team also relies heavily on the leadership of its captain, Shea Weber, who struggled mightily as well this season without his defensive partner in crime, Ryan Suter. He and Suter had been a fantastic pair for many years until Suter signed an eleven year deal worth well over \$100 million with the Minnesota Wild.

Offensively, the Predators

have the ability to score many goals and convert power plays, but were generally ineffective this year under the leadership of Mike Fisher, the other alternate captain.

Overall, the Preds need to and will rebound next season and will be a playoff team. With Barry Trotz in command, the Predators have had a fair amount of success over the last decade and should be poised to continue doing so in the coming years. With a few big moves in free agency and trades this offseason, the Predators could be on their way to the Stanley Cup for their first time in the next few years. With an impeccable Pekka, anything can happen for the Predators.

BIG RED SPORTS

The 2013 Rifle Season

By Holland Lund

The Montgomery Bell Rifle team had a great season for 2013. Almost going undefeated, everyone did his part in helping to earn every win that we had during the year.

This year, our team captain was senior, Hunter Tidwell. He was a great leader and a great shooter. A few weeks before the state championship match, Coach Lee Webb presented the idea of sending Hunter off to college with a state championship ring for 2013, and that is exactly what we did. The team pushed through the end of the season



slumps and finished 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the state championship for 2013.

The rifle team has had a great year, and one of the biggest contributors was Luke Rochford. Luke has improved so much this year that he is now often shooting in the top three

positions. The kicker is that he is only an eighth-grader. He has also been to the Junior Olympics at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado where he placed 4th in the nation.

The rifle team would like to thank Coach Lee Webb, Coach Henry Gaither, and Coach Caroline Rochford. They have done an amazing job hosting the matches and coaching us so that we were given the opportunity to win the State Championship for 2013. Roll Red Rifles!



Representatives from the 2012 - 2013 Rifle Team

CONGRATULATIONS, MAX!



*Max is presented his medal by
Lt. Col. Joe Sharbel.*



*Left to right - Mr. Webb, Mrs. Davis, Max, Mr. Davis,
and Lt. Col. Sharbel*

Max Davis' performance at the 2013 3-Position Air Rifle State Championship was nothing short of incredible. Max shot a score of 576 which was enough to place him in third place in the overall individual category and also propel his squad into third place in the team category. His shooting also gave MBA a clean sweep of the team medal stand. Max showed particular brilliance in the kneeling portion of the competition. Max had a great match going after prone and standing, but he knew along with the rest of the spectators that he needed a very strong final performance to bring home the two bronze medals on the line. Max's kneeling score of 196 would have been remarkable for any high school shooter. That he achieved it as an 8th grade, first-year shooter showed poise well beyond his years.

BIG RED SPORTS



The 2013 Microbe A Baseball Team

Microbe A Baseball

By Turner Johnson



The Microbe A baseball team had a very talented squad this year. The team had extremely solid pitching throughout the whole season. Michael Lee had strong performances

against BA, DCA, BGA, and many others. Drew Martin, Drew Davis, Will Hansen, Jack Anderson, Turner Johnson, John Edward Griffin, Jack Anderson, and Ben Coulthard all had great outings during the season. The team's 10-8 record does not reflect the team's skill. The players really bonded while going through the highs and lows of the season. After a tough loss to BGA at

home, the Big Red rallied around team leaders to get pumped up for the HVAC tournament. This band of brothers traveled to DCA for the first round of the HVAC, and after fighting as hard as they could, they were defeated to end the season. The team learned a lot throughout the season and is excited for what is to come. Thank you to our hardworking coaches, Coach Golenor and Coach Malone.

**The Sponsors
and Editors of
Top of the Hill
Wish You a
Safe and
Happy
Summer!**



BIG RED SPORTS

MBA Microbe Baseball B-Team

By Henry Rhodes

We had a great season, starting out 9-0. We began out the season on a freezing Friday night against the Monarchs. eighth-grader Perry Mathews started the game and we won by a lot. In seventh-grader Palmer Thombs' debut against Bellevue Middle, they were blown out of the park by the numerous runs put up on the board by the Big Red. In game three versus the

Monarchs, John Spurgeon started the game, and Patrick Butner closed the game, getting his second save of the season. In game four versus our arch rival Ensworth, Henry Rhodes started the game, and Miller Freeman got his first appearance and pitched amazingly well. We won again for the fourth time in a row by scoring ten or more runs. In the second game versus Ensworth, Jack Heflin made his debut, and Butner got his third save. On a freezing cold night with rain beating down on our heads, Butner pitched a shutout, allowing only one man on base. In game 7, Miller pitched a great game against BGA for the seventh win in a row. Palmer threw well against CPA, and Jack H. came in to relieve. Butner once again pitched amazingly against CPA for the 9th win. In the 1st loss of the season, John started and Miller got the loss

against Nashville Catholic. MBA got back in the groove by winning the next game in a blowout against Nashville Christian. We lost again to DCA to make our record 10-2. In our next face-off against DCA, we won with Jack Heflin pitching an amazing game.. We had our first loss to the Monarchs the next game with Spurgeon starting, Miller relieving, and Butner closing. We lost again the next day to Croft with Jack H. starting and Miller closing. We got off that losing streak to have another blow-out victory against Bellevue Middle. We lost again to Nashville Catholic in a 7-6 loss. But, to finish the season, we had a great victory against Lipscomb. Thank you to Coach Kincherlowe, Coach Lee, and Coach Golenor for a great season.



The 2013 Microbe B Baseball Team

BIG RED SPORTS

Microbe Tennis Season

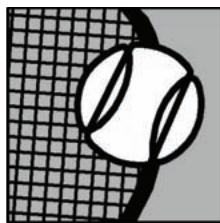
By Mike Miccioli

The members of the 2013 Microbe Tennis team had a strong start to the season, winning all five of their individual matches 8-0 against FRA. MBA players continued



Ben Rosenthal

their season with another victory against CPA, handily winning all of their individual matches again. The Microbes also succeeded in their next match against BGA, still not having lost an individual match. The MBA juggernaut comfortably defeated its next opponent, Ensworth, in a clean sweep. A confident Microbe team easily won their match against Harding Academy, and, like their first match, won all of their individual matches 8-0. MBA continued to thrive against their next opponent. They dominated DCA although there was



some controversy over some of the rules, including whether you could swing at a serve and serve again as long as you didn't make contact with the ball. Later, it was also revealed that the Microbes had been extremely rowdy on the bus to DCA and had to write letters of apologies to the bus driver. However, MBA wasn't flustered by the brouhahas and was also victorious with another clean sweep against their next competition, USN. Coming into the final match against BA, the Microbe Tennis team was undefeated not only against other schools but hadn't lost an individual match either. MBA knew BA would be their toughest competition of the year. Although MBA's Number 1 and Number 2 singles players lost their individual matches, MBA won Number 3 singles and Number 1 and Number 2 doubles, which was just enough to pull off the victory and secure an undefeated regular season. MBA was excited to host the 2013 HVAC tournament, and BA proved to be the Microbe's toughest

competition by once again defeating Ben Ramon and Cole Thornton who both placed second at the Number 1 and Number 2 singles positions, respectively. Despite the losses, MBA rebounded with Ben Rosenthal/Oliver Briggs and Jackson Satz/John Morphett winning first place in both Number 1 and Number 2 doubles, respectively. The deciding match was the Number 3 singles final. Unfortunately, Magnus Campos could not finish off the match as he did last time, and we ended up losing 9-8 to BA in a tiebreaker. MBA finished in second place behind BA who won the championship. Ensworth placed third and USN finished in fourth. Overall, it was a successful tennis season, and the team looks forward to next year.



Magnus Campos



*The 2013 Microbe Tennis Team
(not pictured - Coach Gretchen Zimmerman)*

BIG RED SPORTS



The 2013 Microbe Track Team

Microbe Track

By Drew Powell

The Big Red track team had a great season. With seventy runners and only five coaches, the team had to face an abnormally cold season with rain and sometimes even snow. The team ran in several meets, including two on the same day. We placed 2nd at the Ravenwood Invitational while winning a dual meet at USN by one point. The 7th graders placed 2nd at the Highland Games at FRA without the assistance of the 8th graders because of the Atlanta trip. We placed 2nd at the Inman Relays, winning the 4x1600 relay, the 4x400 relay, and the shot put. The season came to a fantastic close at the HVAC Championships hosted by MBA. The first day was qualification for the finals, where we had twenty different runners compete. Our shot put throwers



placed second and third. We had one pole vaulter place eighth and a seventh place in discus.

In the running finals, Dan Parks, Jackson Owen, and Collin Ragsdale finished fourth, fifth, and eighth respectively in the hurdles. Call Bainbridge won the 400 with a

time of 56.30 and placed fourth in the 100. Will Peters placed second in the mile with an MBA record of 4:52.16. Will also placed second in the 800 by a mere .03 seconds. The 4x100 and 4x200 teams placed fourth overall, and led by Call Bainbridge's spectacular comeback, the 4x400 team won. The 4x800 team placed third overall. At the end of the day, the team placed 2nd behind BA.

This season was not easy by any means, but the team persevered and was able to have success.



BIG RED SPORTS

8th Grade Lacrosse Mania

By Joe Moxley



The eighth grade lacrosse season started off with a harsh six week long winter comeback. When the last part of winter was supposedly ending, the lacrosse team had to brave the storm, literally and figuratively. Some days, it was freezing and windy. Some days, there were downpours of rain. Other days, it was rainy, windy, and freezing cold at the same time. Those weeks of harsh weather were crucial to the team's development. Without those

grueling practices, I think our later success would not have happened.

Our first games in early March were going to be in MBA's Nicholas Caroland Jamboree. We had a hard week of practice, and by Friday, we ready for the long day on Saturday. Of course, the jamboree was cancelled due to the freezing cold temperatures. I woke up that morning pumped for a day of lacrosse but found out that it was cancelled. At first, I was disappointed; but, after a couple of hours, I was glad that I did not have to spend the day outside. The temperature hovered around the freezing point all day long. Our next game against Sunset Middle

was also cancelled, but thankfully it was rescheduled for March 13th. By that time, we wanted to get our first game under our belts, and we were definitely ready for the matchup. We won that game 11-1.

After the crazy weather in February and March, the bulk of the season started in April. We rolled through USN, Harding Academy's A-team, and Woodland's A-team where the closest score was nine to three. Our next challenges were set up for April 13th in Memphis. MBA rented an amazing charter bus for the trip. At seven o'clock in the morning, we packed our gear on the bus and headed for Memphis. Our parents held no restraint in the snacks for us. There were breakfast bars, Jersey Mike subs, fruit, chips, and much more. The bus ride was a blast! But once we got to Memphis

Continued on page 37



The 2013 Eighth-Grade Lacrosse Team

BIG RED SPORTS



The 2013 Seventh-Grade Lacrosse Team

Lacrosse continued from page 36

University School, we tried to get our game faces on and got loose. We lost a close first game against MUS 6-4 and then headed to the Memphis Saints field. We won a close game 7-6. Winning at least one game got our spirits up, and we headed home. If we thought the ride to Memphis was fun, then the ride back was absolutely awesome! Coach Cooper uprooted cookies, Gatorades, chips, and other tasty junk food from the massive pile of food in the front and passed them out. We had so much fun!

To finish the season, we beat Brentwood's A-team and the Franklin Knights by considerable numbers. Lastly, we had the regionally renowned McCallie Tournament. In this tournament some of the best middle school

lacrosse teams in the Southeast competed for the title. The ride to Chattanooga was very similar to the Memphis trip, except for the constant downpour of rain. Soaked, we got to the semi-finals by beating McCallie and tying Altoona. Sadly, we got crushed by a great Lassiter A-team. They were flat out amazing and had great skill. We lost 8-0. Even though we did not know it, that game turned out to be our last one of the season,

The city tournament was supposed to be the next weekend. We were the number one seed and were playing at our best. Throughout the week, heavy rains

were predicted for the tournament day, which could not be rescheduled. As predicted, the tournament was most regrettably cancelled, and the season was over.

On behalf of the eighth grade lacrosse team, I would like to thank Coach Cooper, Coach Brown, and Coach McWhirter for a great season. You made practice fun while teaching us how to play the game of lacrosse the right way. We really appreciate you.



THE BACK PAGE



The MBA Class of 2017

Top of the Hill Staff

Andrew Kaplan, Joe Moxley, Peter Taylor.....Editors-in-Chief
 Tony Huang and Ben Rosenthal.....Features Editors
 Reilly Dodd and John Dugan.....Entertainment Editors
 Jake Evans, Hamilton Garber, Riley Steanson.....Sports Editors
 Mark Lillard and Joe Moxley.....Photographers
 Ben GauldinCartoonist
 Mr. Boysen, Mr. Kimball, and Mrs. Roberts.....Sponsors